



United States Senator Connie Mack



Florida Republican

March 2000

<http://mack.senate.gov>

United States Senator Connie Mack of Florida was sworn into office in January 1995 for his second term after becoming the first Republican in Florida history to be re-elected to the U.S. Senate. Mack received 70 percent of the vote in 1994, more than any other Republican Senate candidate in the nation. **Mack was re-elected by his colleagues without opposition to continue serving as the Republican Conference Chairman for the 106th Congress, making him the third-ranking member of the Senate Republican leadership.** Mack was first elected by his Republican colleagues to this position in 1996, before which he served as the Republican Conference Secretary.

Prior to his election to the Senate, he served three two-year terms as a member of the House of Representatives from Southwest Florida. In April 1994, Mack was named by *Campaigns and Elections* magazine as one of the 20 most popular elected officials in America. As a House member, he was identified by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the nation's most effective, "new rising political stars."

In 1996, Mack was considered by Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole to serve as his vice-presidential running mate.

Florida's Fair Share

Mack fights to ensure Florida receives its fair share from Washington. He introduced legislation, the Surface Transportation and Transit Empowerment (STATE) Act, to allow states to "opt-out" of the federal transportation program and keep most gas tax revenues for their own projects without interference from Washington. Florida, a donor state, has been

consistently shortchanged under the federal transportation funding program—receiving only a 79 cent return per gas tax dollar sent to Washington. Mack fought for changes in the 1998 federal transportation legislation resulting in a 90 cent return for Florida.



U.S. Senator Connie Mack

To protect Florida's pristine environment, Mack has fought against offshore drilling along the state's coast. He has introduced legislation, the Florida Gulf Protection Act, to prohibit the leasing of sensitive Florida Gulf Coast lands and waters for oil or natural gas exploration or drilling.

Mack is an ardent supporter of restoring the Everglades. He played a prominent role in a group of Republican lawmakers who in 1995 succeeded in securing nearly \$300 million for Everglades clean-up, the largest amount of Everglades funding in history.

Mack has fought for more Major

League Baseball in Florida. His efforts were featured in a '60 Minutes' segment.

Less Government... More Freedom

Mack ran for the Senate on a platform of less taxing, less spending, less government, more freedom. He has a long history of fighting for deficit reduction and is a fierce advocate for a balanced budget constitutional amendment.

Mack led a successful effort in 1995 to cut congressional spending by 9 percent – the largest cut in congressional spending in 40 years. In 1990, he led a group of Senate Republicans who encouraged President Bush not to support higher taxes because of the adverse economic impact.

Senator Mack supports free speech rights. During the controversy over the rap group 2 Live Crew, Mack said adults should have the right to listen to the rappers in the privacy of their homes without government interference.

Cancer and Medical Research

Mack and his wife Priscilla, are very active in spreading the message that early detection of cancer saves lives. Mack is a survivor of melanoma. Priscilla Mack is a breast cancer survivor, and their daughter is a cervical cancer survivor. Mack lost his younger brother, Michael to melanoma. His father, now deceased had esophageal cancer, and his mother, also deceased, battled kidney cancer.

For their efforts to promote early cancer detection, Senator and Mrs. Mack have received numerous honors and awards:

- *National Coalition for Cancer Research Lifetime Achievement Award, 1999*
- *National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship Ribbon of Hope Award, 1998*
- *American Cancer Society's 1992 Courage Award*
- *Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's Betty Ford Award, 1992*
- *Don Shula Foundation's "Wedgwood Tribute to Courage Award."* (Mrs. Mack)

They both are active in Florida and national cancer programs for the American Cancer Society.

Mack believes the federal government has a legitimate role in furthering medical research. In the first days of the 105th Congress, Mack introduced a Sense of the Senate Resolution calling for funding to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to be doubled from \$12.75 to \$25.5 billion over the next five years.

- Mack was instrumental in securing a \$2 billion increase for medical research funding – the largest increase in NIH history – in the 1998 Omnibus appropriations bill.
- Senator Mack fought for the inclusion of a \$2.3 billion increase for the NIH for fiscal year 2000, a (15%) increase over the 1999 budget allocation. He has continued to fight to double the investment in medical research at NIH over the next five years, and these increases keep that goal on track.
- Mack co-chairs the Senate Cancer Coalition with Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA) to heighten awareness of cancer research, early detection programs, improving cancer prevention and exploring innovative treatment options.
- Senator Mack participated in the National Cancer Institute's All Ireland Cancer Conference, a historic agreement between the United States, Ireland, and Northern Ireland to develop new ways of fighting cancer.

Landmark Banking Legislation

Mack helped define the framework of landmark legislation which modernizes our nation's banking laws and offers more convenience for consumers, a wider array

of innovative products, and a financial industry that can respond appropriately to the increasing demands of an aggressive global marketplace.

Foreign Policy

In foreign policy, Mack is a fervent supporter of efforts to promote and preserve freedom. Within his first seven months in the Senate in 1989, his bipartisan legislation became law to require State Department reports on PLO activities.

An opponent of normalizing relations with Cuba, he formed the Senate Cuba Freedom Caucus and saw his amendment to tighten the economic embargo against Fidel Castro become law.

Committee Assignments

- Republican Conference Chairman – the Senate Republican Conference assists Republican Senators by providing a full range of communications services.



- Joint Economic Committee (Chairman)
- Finance—Long Term Growth, Debt & Deficit Reduction Subcommittee Chairman
- Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs—Economic Policy Subcommittee Chairman.
- Intelligence Committee
- Mack has previously held assignments with the Armed Services, Appropriations, Foreign Relations, Budget, and Small Business Committees.

Personal

Senator Mack's interest in economics stems from his 16 years as a community banker, including five years as president of Florida National Bank of Lee County. Educated at the University of Florida, he

holds a degree in Marketing from the School of Business. As a local civic leader in Cape Coral, he helped to lead an effort to build a local hospital.

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on October 29, 1940, Senator Mack was married in September 1960 to the former Priscilla Hobbs, a native of Fort Myers. They have two children and three grandchildren.

Senator Mack is a grandson of the legendary baseball manager and owner of the Philadelphia Athletics, Connie Mack.

Washington, D.C.

517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5274

State Headquarters

Tampa - *Military Academy*

Nominations

600 N. Westshore Blvd.
Suite 602
Tampa, FL 33609
813-225-7683

Fort Myers - *Casework*

1342 Colonial Blvd.
Suite 27
Fort Myers, FL 33907
941-275-6252

Miami - *Immigration*

777 Brickell Ave.
Suite 704
Miami, FL 33131
305-530-7100

Jacksonville

One San Jose Place
Suite 9
Jacksonville, FL 32257
904-268-7915

Pensacola

1 Palafox Street
Room 158
Pensacola, FL 32501
850-438-8875

Tallahassee

150 S. Monroe St.
Suite 350
Tallahassee, FL 33301
904-425-1995